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because of the warnings with respect to the administration of charity and the contention as to the inefficiency of consumers' leagues.

The argument for socialism is based upon what is called the "natural" right of property. It is an infringement of these "rights" for an individual to have less or more than the "physical and moral stimulus to productivity." There should be neither want nor surplus. Bequest and inheritance are only "palliatives of social disease." The fallacy of this discussion, as in every plea for an artificial equality, is found in the fact that the highest productivity cannot be secured unless the producer has the stimulus of indefinite surplus. The inheritance of property has been, in by far the larger number of cases, of great advantage in every way. The social parasite is more conspicuous than prevalent. Were the stimulus of the family idea weakened by the elimination of the incentive to toil found in the effort to provide for posterity, economic conditions would at once suffer.

The argument against specialization in industry, that making production more efficient entails a direful "human cost," in the degradation of the workingman, is a statement that cannot be verified. Historically, workingmen were never so intelligent and capable as now. Theoretically, if the employment uses but a part of the man in earning a livelihood, there is a surplus of time and power for the larger circle of human interests.

SAMUEL G. SMITH.

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History of the Working Classes and of Industry in France Before 1789. By E. LEVASSEUR, Member of the Institut. 2 vols. 8vo. Paris: Rousseau, 1900.

Levasseur is an example of what perseverance will do in the development of genius. Forty years ago he won a prize in an academic competition; that essay was the beginning of his work as author. It formed the basis of the "History of the Working Classes and of Industry in France" as it now appears. In the interval he has published his "History of the Working Classes of France from 1789 to 1867," and a work on "The American Workman" in two short volumes, reduced to one in the Johns Hopkins translation. He has also given the world a number of volumes on Geography, Statistics, Education, Politics and Social Science—all valuable contributions.

Founded upon an almost encyclopædic knowledge of the facts of historic development, his new edition, or more properly speaking his new work on the French Working Classes, is destined to be the standard of reference for men in both economic and historical fields. It

is to be hoped that health and strength and years may be spared him to recast and rewrite with the same fulness his projected work on French Industry from the Revolution to the close of the nineteenth century. No teacher can leave a better legacy to his own students and to later generations.

He divides the work under review into seven periods: (1) That of Roman rule, with the workman as slave to his guild under imperial despotism; (2) the invasions, with the workmen scattered and living as serfs on the land of some great lord or as monks in cloisters—the working classes almost annihilated under the barbarians; (3) the period of feudal life and of the crusades, when the workmen again re-established their guilds, and industry and commerce flourished; (4) the Hundred Years' War, with the successful effort of the workmen to strengthen their organization and to secure the support of church and crown; (5) the Renaissance, marked by the triumphs of art and industry and by the growth of the power of the workingmen; their final repression under Henry IV. by vexatious regulations and heavy taxation; (6) the eighteenth century, with the economists as leaders of public thought and their struggle to free labor from taxation and vexatious interference on the part of the state; (7) the Revolution, that at once both overthrew the state and trade corporations.

The history of these eighteen centuries is drawn from the great number of special works which owe their value to leading French writers, but who have limited their research to narrow subjects, and from the inventories of the archives of departments and communes, of which some 350 volumes have been printed. Instead of weighting down his pages, however, with the bibliography of his subject, Levasseur has made this one of his most valuable independent contributions to the Academy, of which he is a distinguished member, thus enriching its publications and giving to students the benefit of his research.

J. G. ROSENGARTEN.

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The Other Man's Country: An Appeal to Conscience. By HERBERT WELSH. Pp 257. Price, \$1.00. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1900.

"The Other Man's Country" is a discussion of the action of the United States in the Philippines, and an arraignment of the policy pursued by the McKinley administration with regard to those islands. Of Mr. Welsh's four chapters, two are historical in character, and two didactic. The first reviews the events of the two years preceding the battle of Manila, the second details the history of American rule in